

MINUTES OF THE LAFAYETTE COMMON COUNCIL
January 5, 2009
REGULAR MEETING

The Common Council of the City of Lafayette, Indiana met in regular session on Monday January 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 20 North 6th Street, Lafayette, Indiana.

President Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag of our Country.

The following members were present:

Present: Heide, Klinker, Meyer, Cornstuble, Brown, Novak, Weast-Williamson, Downing and Campbell.

The City Clerk stated that there was a quorum present.

City Clerk Cindy Murray and Deputy City Attorney Jacque Chosnek were present.

Councilman Downing moved to nominate Councilman Meyer as President of the Common Council for the year 2009, Councilman Brown seconded. Councilman Cornstuble moved the nominations be closed and Mr. Meyer be elected by acclamation, the motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Thereafter, Councilman Meyer presided over the meeting.

Councilman Downing moved to nominate Councilwoman Weast-Williamson as President Pro-Tem for the year 2009, Councilman Campbell seconded. Councilman Campbell moved the nominations be closed and Ms. Weast-Williamson be elected by acclamation, Councilman Downing seconded, the nomination of Councilwoman Weast-Williamson for President Pro-Tem passed by unanimous voice vote. President Meyer thanked Councilman Campbell for his leadership during the past year. Councilman Campbell moved to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2008 regular meeting, Councilman Brown seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The Clerk stated that there were no Claims, Petitions or Communications.

The Clerk stated the following reports are available in the City Clerk's Office:

Clerks Office Monthly-November 2008
Water Works Department Monthly-November 2008
Water Pollution Control Department Monthly-November 2008
Fleet Maintenance, Street Department Monthly-November 2008
Police Department Monthly-November 2008

Ordinances for Second Reading:

The Clerk read Ordinance 2008-36 (An Ordinance Vacating a Portion of Monon Avenue in the City of Lafayette, Indiana) by title only on second and final reading. Councilman Brown moved for passage, Councilwoman Weast-Williamson seconded. Jacque Chosnek, Deputy City Attorney spoke regarding the ordinance. Ordinance 2008-36 passed 8-0 on a roll call vote on second and final reading.

The Clerk read Ordinance 2008-37 (An Ordinance to Amending Ordinance 2008-23 Fixing the Salaries of the Sworn Protective Occupation and Law Enforcement (POLE) Members of the Police and Fire Departments of the City of Lafayette, Indiana for the Year 2009) by title only on second and final reading. Councilman Campbell moved for passage, Councilwoman Weast-Williamson seconded. Mike Jones, City

Controller spoke regarding the ordinance. Ordinance 2008-37 passed 8-0 on a roll call vote on second and final reading.

Ordinances for First Reading:

The Clerk read Ordinance 2008-30 (An Ordinance Amending the Lafayette Municipal Code Title 11 Public Safety and Nuisances, by Adding a New Section 11.02.160, to Prohibit the Use of Compression Release Engine Brakes) by title only on first reading. Councilman Cornstuble as the sponsor requested the Ordinance be withdrawn, Councilman Klinker seconded. President Meyer called for a voice vote regarding the withdrawal of Ordinance 2008-30, which passed 8-0 on a roll call vote.

Resolutions:

The Clerk read Resolution 2009-01 (A Resolution to Dissolve the Wabash River Parkway Commission) by title only on first and final reading. Councilman Heide moved for passage, Councilwoman Weast-Williamson seconded. Resolution 2009-01 passed 8-0 on a roll call vote on first and final reading.

Mayor Roswarski requested the Council rearrange the agenda to hear Resolution 2009-03 due to the anticipation of lengthy discussions with Resolution 2009-02. Council members unanimously approved the agenda change.

The Clerk read Resolution 2009-03 (A Declaratory Resolutions Ratifying and Approving Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area – Lafayette Union Railway) by title only on first and final reading. Councilman Campbell moved for passage, Councilman Brown seconded. Dana Smith, member of the Lafayette Union Railway noted that the title of the Resolution is Lafayette Union Railway and not Lafayette Urban Railway. Councilman Campbell motioned to note this as a scrivener's error and from this time forward that Lafayette Urban Railway shall be referred to as Lafayette Union Railway. Resolution 2009-03 passed 8-0 on a roll call vote on first and final reading. Councilman Campbell motioned to set a Public Hearing February 2, 2009 at 7:01 p.m., Councilman Brown seconded. Motioned passed by unanimous voice vote.

The Clerk read Resolution 2009-02 (A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Lafayette, Indiana, Authorizing the Participation of said City in the Motor Fuel Hedge Program of the Indiana Bond Bank for the 2009 Budget Year, The Execution of the Qualifying Entity Reimbursement Agreement in Connection Therewith and Other Related Matters) by title only on first and final reading. Councilman Campbell moved for passage, Councilman Klinker seconded. Mayor Roswarski gave a brief explanation of the Program and introduced Tom Guevara from Crowe Howarth who gave an extensive explanation of the program and answered questions from the Council. Pearl Speakman, 923 S. 22nd St. spoke in support of the program. Earl Stanton, 1013 Elizabeth St. questioned if the program would affect the utility rates. Councilman Campbell moved to amend the resolution, to limit the percentage of the city fuel committed to the program to fifty percent (50%), Councilman Brown seconded. Discussion ensued. Councilman Campbell moved to withdraw his motion to amend the resolution, Councilman Brown seconded. President Meyer called for roll call vote on the Resolution as filed. Resolution 2009-02 passed 8-0 on a roll call vote on first and final reading.

There were no Reports of Special Committee

Report by the Mayor-Mayor Roswarski gave the State of the City Address

Good Evening, Members of the Council, Citizens who are with us in the audience and all Citizens of Lafayette. It is my honor, as the Mayor of your City, to present to you my State of the City Address tonight, January 5 2009. I would like to begin by thanking the members of this Council, the members of our Boards and Commissions, the City Staff, and Department Heads for their commitment to our

community. A special thanks to our City employees who again in a very efficient, cost effective manner delivered outstanding City services. We are blessed with one of the best communities anywhere in this country, because we have citizens who get involved, who care and work to make a difference. I look forward to continuing to work with everyone in 2009. Tonight I will speak very little about the past but more about the future and the philosophy that will guide us through 2009 and into 2010. We know that the economy on a national level and in our state as well as in our community is facing many challenges. While we acknowledge this fact, we will not let this deter us from our mission of making the Lafayette community strong, prosperous, forward thinking and creative. While there maybe some apprehension throughout the country we will not allow that to slow us down. In 2009 we will go forward with the widening of 350 South, we will continue to move forward on the Concord Road Project, and Maple Point Drive. We will continue our work on Service Area 21 and other infrastructure projects that will allow us to grow, support job creation and increase capacity to handle our Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) issues. We will to continue to look at ways to make downtown grow and prosper. We will continue with our Street Scape projects. We will continue with our Economic Development efforts to attract investment and create new jobs. We will do those things that will aggressively market our community and continue to send the message not only throughout the United States but to the world that Lafayette is "Open for Business." We will use this opportunity to strengthen our foundation, to promote our economic diversity, to continue to build our workforce and stress education and training. We stand ready to work with our local businesses to help them through this difficult period. It is our goal to emerge ahead of our national economy, not playing catch up, but having already captured opportunities. We will work diligently on public safety, continue and grow our Weed and Seed Program, our Shelter Plus Care program, and reach out to those in our community who are the most in need. We will look for opportunities to partner on public-private projects, to look for grants and outside funding to do those things that improve the quality of life for all citizens in our community. The redevelopment of Bridgeway Apartments to a contributing asset to the neighborhood and the City of Lafayette is a top priority. We will continue to work on the development of the Wabash River Corridor that will create recreational and community development opportunities and help designate our area as a place of choice. We will continue to work on improving our environment through green and sustainable initiatives such as projects to help eliminate our Combined Sewer Overloads or CSOs that will help improve water quality for our citizens and the Wabash River. We explore hybrid and electric vehicles where feasible to lessen our use of gasoline and do our part to lessen our country's dependence on foreign oil. We will also continue to lead by example by exploring and implementing green and sustainable building and construction practices such as the renovation of 515 Columbia for new city offices. During difficult times, it would be easy to simply pull back and wait, but I plan with the help of this Council and the great spirit of our citizens and all the members of this community, not to wait, but to move our community forward. I view this as a time of great opportunity, a time when we must look inward to ourselves for creativity, strength and new ideas, and we will do just that. We will implement new technologies and systems to work smarter and faster. We will look for new opportunities that will drive down the cost of our products we have to purchase. We will continue to collaborate with other local units of government in any way possible. I believe our citizens expect nothing less, they expect a government who is ready to meet the challenges of today and the challenges of tomorrow. A government that can perform well in good times and a government that can perform well in difficult times. I have no intention of any reduction in services to our citizens, yet we will ask things of our citizens. When it comes to recycling, we need their help. Every person in Lafayette must recycle. We will ask our citizens to be good ambassadors. We need our citizens through their business interactions, professional affiliations, travels throughout the United States and aboard and casual conversation to let people know that Lafayette is "Open for Business" and it is a great place to live, work and be successful. We must spread the word that we have a diverse economic base. We have a municipal government that is on a solid foundation. We have a tremendous work force, and value education. We have a very clean prosperous city with good parks, nice trails, good schools and arts and culture opportunities. We need all our citizens to be ambassadors for our community, we need to encourage people to look at Lafayette during these difficult times as a place where capitol investments still can be made with a good return and strong potential for long term growth and profit. We need to spread the word this is a great place if you are just starting out, if you are looking for a great place to raise a family,

or a great place to retire. I view these times as an opportunity and I believe with all of us working together it will be. Thank-you and May God Bless the City of Lafayette.

There was no Miscellaneous or New Business.

Reports of Councilman:

President Meyer requested all Council Members look over their committee assignments from 2008 and inform the City Clerk if they would like to make changes.

Public Comment: Perry Barbee 1714 Union Street spoke against the raise given to the city employees and elected officials.

Vinod Singh, 407 Ferry Street. Request the council to consider naming a street after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave. and present a petition with over four hundred fifty (450) signatures. President Meyer requested Ms. Singh provide a copy of the petition to the City Clerk's Office.

Pearl Speakman, 923 So.22nd Street, commented on the empty store fronts downtown and asked that the city try getting businesses into the empty buildings.

Terry Masterson, 1115 Central Ave. commented on the referendums that were on the ballot on November And requested that the city get a hearing with the tax review board.

Duane Moffitt, Executive Director of Hanna Community Center, invited everyone to Ebony and Ivory Ball Jan.31, 2009 at the University Inn.

The Mayor announced that the Animal Control Commission is ready to be implemented and needs citizen input to help tweak the Animal Control Ordinance.

Mayor Roswarski asked about naming of some streets that have been brought in through annexation and requested the Transportation Committee begin working on the process.

With no further business to come before the Council, Councilman Campbell moved to adjourn, Councilwoman Novak seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Minutes prepared by Cindy Murray, City Clerk

Complete audio of meeting available in the City Clerks office or at www.lafayette.in.gov